

Tribhuvan University

Critique of Patriarchal and Capitalist Ideologies
in Priestley's *An Inspector Calls*

A thesis submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of
Master of Arts in English

By

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April, 2013

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Letter of Recommendation

Dipika Panthi has completed her thesis entitled "Critique of Patriarchal and Capitalist Ideologies in Priestley's *An Inspector Calls*" under my supervision. She carried out her research from Dec 2012 to Mar 2013. I hereby recommend her thesis be submitted for viva voce.

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Approval Letter

This thesis entitled “Critique of Patriarchal and Capitalist Ideologies in Priestley’s *An Inspector Calls*” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Dipika Panthi has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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Acknowledgements

First of all, I would like to express my deep sense of respect to Mr. Badri Prasad Acharya, my guide and the Lecturer at the Central Department of English, for direction, encouragement, idea and productive advice from the very beginning to the completion of this thesis. Without his steady and unbroken direction and intellectual guidance, this research work would have never had the shape of its present form. I consider myself very fortunate to carry out this research under his supervision and guidance. So, I would like to extend my sincere and hearty gratitude to him.

I am very much thankful to Prof. Dr. Amma Raj Joshi, Head of the Central Department of English, for the acceptance of this research work in its present shape. I would like to expand my sincere thanks to respected teachers Mr. Chitra K. Karki, Maheshwor Paudel, and other teachers along with administrative staffs who inspired me to materialize my dream of Master of Arts in English Literature.

I would like to acknowledge my husband Mr. Hem Raj Naunyal for his support, valuable ideas, co-ordination and computer typing to complete my research in M. A. English. I would also like to express my gratefulness to my friend Manoj Bhatta and others, who directly or indirectly helped me to bring this thesis in its current form.

April 2013

Dipika Panthi

Abstract

This thesis entitled “Critique of Capitalist and Patriarchal Ideologies in Priestley’s *An Inspector Calls*” is an analysis of the novel from the view point of Marxist Feminism. This work basically focuses on the domination of capitalists and patriarchs upon proletariats, especially on females and resistance of females to capitalistic and patriarchal norms and values. The central character Eva Smith is working as a laborer under capitalist and patriarchal mode of society. Wherever she goes, she cannot be free from the claws of bourgeois and patriarchs that make her life deplorable; she is time and again exploited by bourgeois and patriarchs and she finally is compelled to commit suicide which can be seen as a silent resistance to capitalistic and patriarchal norms and values. Though another female character, Sheila is from bourgeois class, as a female she is also dominated inside her class. She is used as a means of upgrading business by her family and her lover’s family. The degrading situation of female has been portrayed as an inevitable consequence of private accumulation of capital. Mr. Birling, his wife Sybil, son Eric, daughter Sheila and Gerald Croft dominate Eva Smith by means of capitalist and patriarchal ideologies. They present their cruel behavior towards Eva either exploiting sexually or by dismissing from job; she becomes a victim of their patriarchal and capitalist beliefs. So, to avoid the capitalist and patriarchal domination and exploitation, she has to leave this world. Her suicide is a silent slap on the face of capitalistic and patriarchal domination.

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